



June 4, 2007

**H.Con.Res. 94 – Encouraging the elimination of harmful fishing subsidies that contribute to overcapacity in commercial fishing fleets worldwide and that lead to the overfishing of global fish stocks**

**Floor Situation**

H.Con.Res. 94 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced on March 20, 2007 by Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU). The legislation has not been considered by any Committee in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress.

H.Con.Res. 94 is expected to be considered on the floor on June 5, 2007.

**Summary**

H.Con.Res. 94 encourages the elimination of harmful fishing subsidies that contribute to overcapacity in commercial fishing fleets worldwide and lead to the overfishing of global fish stocks.

**Background**

Nearly 1,000,000,000 people around the world depend on fish as their primary source of dietary protein. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization has found that 75 percent of the world's fish populations are currently over exploited, fully exploited, significantly depleted, or recovering from overexploitation.

Scientists have estimated that significant percentages of big predator fish such as tuna, marlin, and swordfish are gone from the world's oceans and warn of a global collapse within this century of all species now fished if current trends in overfishing are not reversed. This has caused the global fishing fleet capacity is to be up to 250 percent greater than is needed to catch what the ocean can sustainably produce.

The United States Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission identified overcapitalization of the global fishing fleets as a major contributor to the widespread depletion of economically important fish populations. Harmful fishing subsidies encourage overcapitalization and overfishing; support destructive fishing practices such as high seas trawling that would not otherwise be economically viable; and amount to billions of dollars annually.

**Cost**

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not scored H.Con.Res. 94

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